

Mount Carmel, Utah.  
May 22, 1946.



Mr. Ed. H. Watson, State Engineer,  
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Dear Sir:

Re: DISTRIBUTION, EAST FORK VIRGIN RIVER.

Inclosed herewith you will find a check for \$10.00 to pay the premium on the Water Commissioner's bond as you instructed, and the following is a copy of the meeting that was held in response to the call sent out from your office.

Yours truly,

*Birt Gardner*

#### WATER USER'S MEETING- VIRGIN RIVER EAST FORK.

The water users of the East Fork of the Virgin River in Utah met at the meeting house in Mount Carmel, Utah, on Mon. May 20, 1946, at 4:00 o'clock P.M. in answer to a call issued by Ed. H. Watson, State Engineer, on May 13, 1946, which was sent to all water users who claim rights on the East Fork of the Virgin River under the "Burton Decree" of Dec. 1925.

David W. P. Stevens was elected Chairman of the meeting and Birt Gardner was elected secretary by motions duly made seconded and carried by vote.

A roll call by the secretary showed that the following persons were present, some representing incorporated companies: Glendale Irrigation Co. was represented by it's Pres. Marcellus Johnson, Orderville Irrigation Co. was represented by it's Pres. Lawrence Esplin, Mount Carmel Irrigation Co. was represented by it's Pres. David W. P. Stevens, who also represented the Muddy Irrigation Co. as it's Secretary, Mount Carmel Pipe Line Co. was represented by it's Secretary, Birt Gardner who is also secretary of the Irrigation Co., Conrad DeMille and Mark Chamberlain were present as members of the board of the Orderville Irrigation Co., Charles C. Anderson was present as member of the board of the Glendale Irrigation Co. and as owner of 20 Shares on Clear Creek, David L. Foote represented his own 77.3 shares, and David Sorensen represented the 113.9 shares held in the name of his wife Alta M. Sorensen. Thus about 1,555 acres of water rights were represented and the stockholders of the three incorporated Companies a big majority of the water users on this stream. There are about 22 other persons who have water rights in this area and who were notified of the meeting but who never showed up. Of these Lester Blackburn, who died the day before the meeting, had the best excuse for not being present. Since a majority of the water and the water users were represented it was decided to proceed with the business of the meeting.

The chairman stated that the first order of business would be the selection of a water commissioner and called for nominations;



Mr. H. Tahron Salter, of Mt. Carmel, Utah, was nominated by Birt Gardner. Mr. Robert Chamberlain, of Orderville, Utah, was nominated by Lawrence Esplin. Time was given for other nominations but none was made. A motion was made by Charles C. Anderson that nominations cease and that voting proceed by secret ballot with each person present allowed one vote. The motion was seconded and carried. Slips of paper were handed out and each person wrote the name of the one he was voting for. The votes were counted, Chamberlain had 5 and Salter had 4. Lawrence Esplin then explained that Robert Chamberlain had not definitely agreed to act and made a motion that in case he did not want to and could not be persuaded the job should be given to Mr. Salter provided of course that Mr. Salter would act. The motion was seconded and carried by vote.

The Chairman then called for discussion and estimates for a budget. After some discussion a motion was made by Marcellus Johnson that a budget of \$100.00 be adopted. Said budget would provide \$84.00 for wages and mileage for the water commissioner, \$10.00 for the premium on his bond, and \$6.00 for other miscellaneous expense that might be incurred. Budget should not be inflexible since no one can estimate in advance and guess exactly right. Under this budget the Commissioner would be expected to make about one trip each week around to the head of all the canals and ditches where water is diverted from the main flow of the stream, for three months during the summer. On each trip he would measure the flow of the stream and determine how much each ditch is entitled to divert. He would then make his findings known to the person responsible for maintaining each ditch so these persons could help maintain the proper adjustments. For each trip the Commissioner would receive \$7.00 in pay and mileage. For other work he would receive pay at the rate of \$5.00 per day and 5¢ per mile. Motion to accept this budget was seconded by Lawrence Esplin and passed by vote.

Another motion was made by Marcellus Johnson that the Presidents of the three Irrigation Companies, Glendale, Orderville, and Mt. Carmel, act as a permanent committee to collect the money for the water distribution budget and pay the Commissioner for his services etc. Also this committee should remain organized to be ready to ask the State Engineer to call the meeting to select a water Commissioner earlier in the season henceforth. Each year when a new president is elected in each Co. the new president will automatically become a member of this committee. At present the personnel of the committee will be Marcellus Johnson, Glendale, Lawrence Esplin, Orderville, and David W. P. Stevens, Mt. Carmel, with LeGrande C. Heaton of Orderville called in to be secretary for the committee. Birt Gardner secretary of the meeting will prepare and submit the minutes of the present meeting and then his obligation to the committee will be ended. The motion was seconded by Lawrence Esplin and passed by vote.

There being no further business to come before the meeting a motion to adjourn was made seconded and carried.

*Birt Gardner*  
Secretary of the meeting.





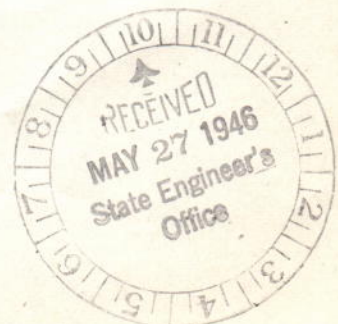
## SECRETARY'S FOOTNOTE TO THE ABOVE MINUTES.

After the meeting Mr. Lawrence Esplin talked to Robert Chamberlain about taking the Water Commissioner job and reported back to me that Mr. Chamberlain had decided that he could not handle the job in addition to his other work. Mr. Stevens and I then went to see Mr. Salter but found him not at home. The next day Mr. Stevens talked to Mr. Salter and he agreed to tackle the job under the terms outlined in the meeting. So according to the terms of Mr. Esplin's motion in the meeting Mr. H. THARON SALTER of Mount Carmel, Utah, is the man recommended to you for the appointment as Water Commissioner on the East Fork of the Virgin River for the summer of 1946.

Mr. Salter is a math teacher in the local High School. He acted unofficially as water Commissioner last year owing to our failure to get an official appointment for him. It was largely due to his demands for better equipment for measuring and distributing the water that the three Companies, with the aid of the Soil Conservation service, built the Parshall flumes in each of their canals last fall. The representatives present at the meeting expressed confidence in his ability and concurred in the opinion that Mr. Salter is as competent as anyone we can find for the job. I trust you will find these minutes in proper order and see fit to give Mr. Salter an appointment right away.

A Check for the premium on his bond is inclosed herewith as above mentioned.

*Birt Gardner*



Bill Gardner,  
Int. Camel,  
Utah.

Mrs. Ed. H. Watson,  
State Engineer's Office  
Salt Lake City,  
Utah.

